



**KINGS NORTON  
TEAM PARISH**

**THE MAGAZINE**  
FOR CHURCH & COMMUNITY

**August 2020**

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A Church of England Team Parish serving all in Kings Norton and Druids Heath through the Parish Church of St Nicolas and the District Churches of Hawkesley and Immanuel  
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# St Nicolas' Reopens

Your parish church is now able to reopen for public worship within certain limitations, all of which are explained on the parish website. Places must be booked with the Parish Office by noon on the previous Friday. Meanwhile, because we recognise that many will wish to continue to connect with their church in the safety of their own homes, we will continue to broadcast worship online throughout the Summer at [www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video).

## The 5th Sunday after Trinity - 12th July 2020

In a new departure this week, two local community leaders, Peter Hay CBE, Churchwarden at St Nicolas' Church, and Sam Smith, Headteacher of Hawkesley Church Primary Academy, reflect on faith in a time of quarantine. The service is led by The Revd Eliakim Ikechukwu.

### Technical Advice

Because this page is updated periodically, please refresh your browser every time you visit it to be sure that you are seeing the latest content by pressing the F5 key (Windows) or ⌘+R (Mac) on your keyboard. For the best picture quality, click the cog wheel (Settings) in the bottom right-hand corner of the video and ensure that Quality is set to 1080p. If the cog has already been overlaid by the red HL label, there is no need to do anything. To be notified when new videos appear, follow us on [Twitter @kingsnortonteam](https://twitter.com/kingsnortonteam), or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kingsnortonteam).



You can contribute towards the costs of our ministry by [clicking here](#).

[Click here](#) to see all videos of our services since Holy Week 2020.

Additional resources : [The life and worship of Ely Cathedral](#).

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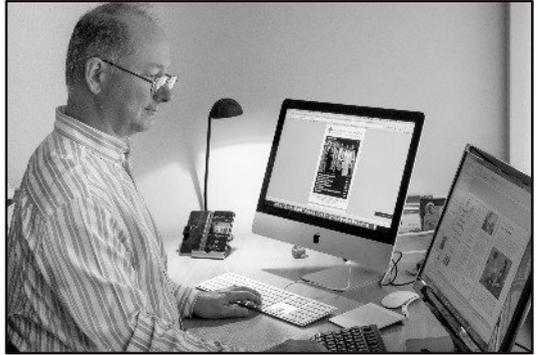
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Please submit text in an editable  
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the attention of The Editor.

## Submission Deadlines

Items for inclusion in the September  
2020 edition must reach the  
Editor by midnight on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup>  
August**.

Items for inclusion in the October  
2020 edition must reach the  
Editor by midnight on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup>  
September**.



As I write this, the Parochial Church Council, whose Zoom meeting I can hear resonating from our living room, has just taken the decision to reopen St Nicolas' Church for public worship. We could not have reached this point without the endeavours of a few indefatigable individuals who have drawn up a thorough risk assessment in response to Church and Government guidelines. Their efforts and those of many others to equip the church to respond imaginatively, flexibly and generously to this pandemic will probably go unsung. As always, it is the selflessness of a relatively small group of committed, self-effacing people which has been keeping the show on the road for the rest of us. Perhaps, one day, and perhaps in these pages, their stories will be told.

In the meantime, this issue brings you more examples of the way in which Covid-19 has already made us question attitudes and behaviours which we previously took for granted, changing the ways in which we think and live and sometimes even bringing out the best in us. A crisis is always a test of character, a moment when people's true colours are revealed. Some of those revelations can be surprising.

This month's articles will also remind you that your generosity and your active involvement are still badly needed. Whatever shape the new normal assumes, it is already clear that we are going to need each other more than ever.

*The Editor*

# From The Rector

## What Is This New Normal?

As we cautiously emerge from the pandemic and its restrictions there is a good deal of speculation regarding how our society and our attitudes have or will be changed by the experience. There seem to be three general attitudes emerging which I refer to as: the post Covid-19 idealists, the realists and the pragmatists. There is probably a fourth category, the cynical, but as cynics are locked into a pessimistic mindset about all human affairs, they won't feature much in this article.

The idealists desire that the outpouring of care and compassion, the simplified lifestyles and the renewed appreciation of nature all persist beyond the pandemic and evolve into a renewed sense of social solidarity, care for the earth and a revitalisation of something which, in former days, we called community spirit. The realists recognise that, while in a time of national crisis the humanitarian impulses to engage in widespread acts of goodness, selflessness and sacrifice emerge and flourish, they



won't last long beyond the state of emergency; they will subside and then return to the private sphere of our lives, where they are normally located. The pragmatists regard all notions of a 'better society' emerging out of the pandemic as so much wishful thinking and the preserve of the credulous and poetical. What most people want, they argue, is their livelihoods secured, life to go back

to how it was and swiftly to consign the pandemic experience to history. The cynic will declare, the idealists will be disillusioned, the realists self-satisfied and the pragmatists justified; and then go into a newly-opened pub for a drink.

Whenever we pass through times of crisis, personally or collectively, we search for ways of coping with our sufferings and fears. When the routines and certainties of our lives have been fractured and endangered we want answers. We look for the causes and often a target for our accusations, something or someone to blame. We may go into denial about the scale of the problem confronting us. We may become fixated with 'following the rules' uncritically and judging those who are non-compliant. We can become angry and indignant or we may express contradictory emotions, sometimes despairing while, at other times, light hearted and casual. We have seen all of these responses in the media coverage of attitudes to the pandemic and to so called social distancing. Whether we emerge

'PEOPLE OF FAITH ARE OFTEN ACCUSED OF BEING TOO IDEALISTIC, BUT I ARGUE THAT THIS IS INEVITABLE.'

from this pandemic as an idealist, a pragmatist or a realist (or even a cynic) one thing is certain; we have all been impacted and changed by the experience in ways unlooked for and unexpected. This virus and our national response to it have severely interrupted the normal rhythms of our lives and hence the speculation about what the 'new normal' will be. Or do we really want new certainties?

From a faith perspective, I found myself drawn to the ancient story of the Exodus, the divinely inspired slave rebellion by the Hebrew people against the oppression of Pharaoh, which became the founding story of the people of Israel. Moses emerged as the unexpected leader of the enslaved people and repeatedly challenged Pharaoh to, 'set [his] people free!' This cry for freedom has echoed through the ages and has been adopted by oppressed people in many eras, particularly by African slaves in the Americas and elsewhere.

When eventually allowed to leave Egypt, the Hebrews endured long years of wandering in the area we

know as the Sinai Peninsula. All their certainties and routines were left behind, as well as their homes, livelihoods and way of life. Although freed from slavery they had only a vague concept of what their 'new normal' would be; a vision of a 'promised land, flowing with milk and honey.'

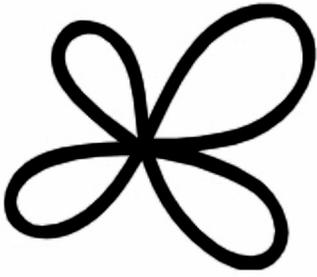
In those years of wandering in the wilderness, they too had their idealists, realists and pragmatists. The idealists kept the vision of a new homeland under God as the motivating force propelling them on through the sufferings they endured. Many became disillusioned with the whole enterprise and began to grumble and complain even suggesting they would have been better off staying in Egypt. Others grew suspicious of the deity embraced by Moses and wished to assuage the heavens by moulding a golden calf to worship as their idol. It was a fraught and anxious period where the vision of a new future and those in leadership promoting it were regularly questioned and doubted. Ultimately, the vision proved both worthy and true; they did reach the Promised Land which the nation of Israel established.

People of faith are often accused of being too idealistic, but I argue that this is inevitable. We are

tutored in the stories of our sacred texts and we read and absorb the Biblical stories of triumph and disaster, of our history of human waywardness and redemption. We read and recall in songs and prayers the liberating visions of our Bible: A New Creation, The Kingdom of God, The Healing of the Nations, a New Jerusalem. To be caught up in these projections or longings for a more just, peaceful and harmonious world is the pinnacle of religious imagination. It is not heaven we are waiting for; it is to bring heaven to earth that we should be working for.

Whatever the future holds for us in a post-Covid 19 world, the challenges we faced before are still the challenges we will face afterwards: climate change, environmental degradation, economic inequality, war and conflict, mass migration, racism and the elusiveness of global cooperation on these issues. The pandemic may have sharpened our appreciation of life and shaken our complacency but, without a divinely inspired vision to propel us and motivate our better natures, we may find that we default to 'business as usual'.

*The Reverend Larry Wright*



# BIRMINGHAM ST MARY'S HOSPICE

*Birmingham St Mary's, Birmingham and Sandwell's hospice charity, has launched its 'Resilience Fund Appeal' to help cope with the effects of COVID-19 and keep its services running.*

Doctors, nurses and frontline staff at Birmingham St Mary's have been caring for people with life-limiting illnesses throughout the coronavirus crisis, including those who have been diagnosed with COVID-19. The charity has also been working in partnership with GPs, district nurses and the NHS to ensure that its incredible care has been offered to all who need it. But the charity has seen a huge drop in its income during the pandemic. All 17 of its

charity shops had to close temporarily and all community activities, corporate partnerships and fundraising events have been postponed. It costs £23,288 to run the hospice every day; £14,000 of this comes from fundraising and donations.

The *Resilience Fund Appeal* is a call to the people of Birmingham and Sandwell for urgent help to keep these vital services running. The

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appeal's logo is a white feather, symbolising the memories of loved ones who are no longer with us, but also as a sign of hope and determination that brighter days are ahead. Birmingham St Mary's has created 'Remembrance Feathers' and is asking the local community to write messages of personal remembrance and celebration. They will then be sent back to the team, who will create a moving display at the Hospice in Selly Park in loving memory of those who have been lost.

Katy O'Sullivan, Birmingham St Mary's Head of Philanthropy said, 'We need our community to support us more than ever right now. With their incredible help, and despite all the restrictions, we've been able to bring peace, comfort and dignity to so many local people in their final days. But now we face many more exceptionally challenging months which will bring major new challenges that we will not be able to overcome without our community's continued support.'

'We need help to be able to offer dignified, compassionate, end-of-life



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care to those who need it at the Hospice in the coming months. We need help to care for those who will remain isolated at home, trying to cope with their long-term life-limiting illness. And we need help to reach all those who will have to cope with the tragic death of a loved one.'

Birmingham St Mary's has been the hospice charity for Birmingham and Sandwell for over 40 years. Every day, Birmingham St Mary's supports and cares for more than 500 people living with life-limiting illnesses across Birmingham and Sandwell.

As a thank you for donations received to the Resilience Fund Appeal, Birmingham St Mary's is offering to send donors a white feather pin badge, so that local people can show their support. These pin badges will also be available directly from Birmingham St Mary's, for a suggested minimum donation of £3 per badge.

*If you want to find out more about the appeal or to donate, please visit **[birminghamhospice.org.uk/resilience](http://birminghamhospice.org.uk/resilience)** or call St Mary's fundraising team on 0121 752 8779.*



# FOODBANK NEWS

An update from last month. Our interconnecting hole in the wall has been duly created and the floor and walls made good, meaning that we now have two warehouses which open onto each other. Hoorah!

With a lot of racking and towers of crates on wheeled dollies, we can store a great deal of food (about two-thirds of capacity at the moment) and know exactly what stock we have. My co-manager is the techno-brain of our duo, and is creating a spreadsheet which will tell us exactly what stock we have and where it is in the building. I am more skilled at working out which team member to have on what

shift, so we make a good partnership.

We are still being careful to limit volunteer numbers, but the building work has meant that we can safely have a few more in on any session, which has already made a big difference to how we can function.

We continue to support other Trussell Trust neighbours too, in particular the Erdington Foodbank, whose local area is less well blessed with additional foodbanks than our own.





A recent visitor commented on what a professional set-up it was. We also talked about whether we could foresee a time when it would no longer be needed. Sadly, I can't envisage that, certainly not for the next couple of years. The Reverend Roger Collins, a former Project Lead and still highly involved, spotted a quotation yesterday: 'It's all very well helping us to afford to eat out, but it may be that we can't afford to eat at all' (I hope I quote correctly, as I do not know the author or the source. It was read out across the noise of an active foodbank shift). It made us both stop and think, especially as we had each

separately enjoyed our first meal out a few days earlier.

Every client has a story that is alarming in 21st century England, but the one I would like to leave you with, for your prayers, is this: a young widow left caring for 5 young children, in a country to which she had come just recently as a refugee escaping war, only to lose her young husband to Covid-19. She had almost nothing to call her own and little English; but she did have the blessing of a good and caring key worker, who was fighting for her needs as much as possible.

*Sylvia Fox*

For a deeper insight into how the B30 Foodbank works and what it looks like inside, watch the Sunday video service for 19th July on the parish website at [www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video-archive](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video-archive). Sylvia's interview, from which these stills were taken, begins at 13 min 40 sec.

# THE WONDERFUL



## *Kath's Café*

**The Reverend Catherine Matlock writes:** *The wonderful hospitality of Kath's Café has continued during the lockdown, offered in wider and deeper ways than take away and deliveries. In addition to being a very successful business owner, Kath Coogan has a huge heart for community and has collaborated with other local leaders to support residents of Druids Heath during the pandemic. For example, Kath set up a fundraiser for the Estate and made the café a drop off point for food donations and arts and crafts supplies for families.*

Kath has also supported her customers through listening to their personal challenges in lockdown. Asked how they are doing, many are grateful to share their feelings of loneliness, fears about social distancing and contracting Covid-19 from others; worries about the lack of clarity with restrictions, especially as we come out of lockdown; unsure who they can speak to about their benefits or health concerns with so many organisations only providing a limited service over the telephone or online. Kath told me that some people have lost their jobs and others have serious health conditions which might have been treated sooner if they hadn't been

afraid to visit the hospital. She does say that a select few have actually enjoyed lockdown, happy with social distancing because they prefer their own company.

Happily, Kath has witnessed community coming together during lockdown and has experienced the generosity and kindness of others first hand. She is especially grateful for Mick's amazing contribution to Idmiston Croft where Kath's Café is located, describing him as a superstar who needs a medal.

Mick, Kath's daily customer and loyal friend, after he had been furloughed



*Kath with Mick : Wonderful Hospitality, Kindness & Presence*

from work, remembered feedback in a recent community engagement project facilitated by Jayne Murray, local community artist. Residents had complained about the Idmiston Croft thoroughfare, saying how messy and unkempt it was, particularly the grass and weeds growing through the pavement and climbing up the vertical fixtures such as trees, posts and the old phonebox. Mick wasn't doing anything one day so got out his hoe and started digging. Once he saw what a difference his efforts made, he carried on until all of Idmiston Croft was cleared. Three months

later, the area has been transformed!

Mick, along with Kath and Jayne Murray, hopes for another tree to be planted, an extra bin to be provided, saddle pots to be installed on the railings, and for the phone box to be renovated and used as a community notice board. They also want to site a bench outside the café, in memory of Frank Barley, the single dad who died during the lockdown and a friend of many customers.

As with so many acts of kindness, Mick has also benefited from the



generous contribution of his personal time and energy. As well as having something to do, sampling Kath's food every day and saving his having to wash up, Mick got to know so many more residents who are curious about what he's up to. Nowadays, local people know Mick by name and they've shared conversation and stories, the vast majority so grateful for the change he's bringing to the area. One resident even bought Mick two lottery tickets to say thank you. In Mick's words, such connection has been good for his soul.

I am struck by the difference Mick has made through his kindness and presence. Simply being there in Idmiston Croft every day, engaging with local people, investing in the space around the café and transforming it from tiredness and

neglect to somewhere of great potential where beauty and memories can be cultivated. Mick offers care and commitment to Druids Heath, re-imagining the environment and seeking to make Kath's Café a place of renewal and hope outside as well as inside.

Kath and Mick make a great team. They are a wonderful example of how individual skills and gifts, generous hearts and collaborative spirits can engage, influence and transform communities.

So, when you next visit Kath's Café, notice how its unique, loving community spirit dwells on the street outside as well as within its walls.

*The Reverend Catherine Matlock*

# St Nicolas' Church

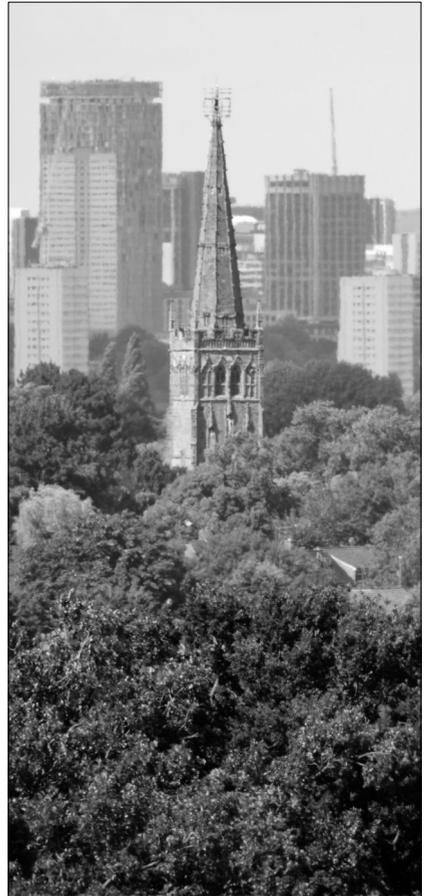
## Building Repairs Update

*Although the Covid-19 pandemic has put a halt to many things in our lives, we have been making what progress we can with regard to the repair work needed at St Nicolas' Church. We've become so used to the scaffolding as a feature of the view that it will be a relief when we can get the work started and get the scaffolding removed. But not just yet.*

### Steeple Work

The emergency repairs were completed before the lockdown and the scaffolding was retained to make possible the less urgent but necessary work. The lockdown put a halt to this second phase. Now that restrictions are lifting, we are hoping to commission the work in the next few months.

Once the steeple and associated tower works are completed, the bell ringers can return and the much missed peals ring out again. One unexpected opportunity came our way when we were informed of a special fund set up by the National Lottery to speed up repairs of heritage buildings and churches. The fund will assist skilled crafts people to return to employment and start working again with a full order book.



With the help of the Diocese we have made an application to this fund.

## **Baptistry Roof Repairs**

This is the more substantial repair and we have so far raised over half the estimated amount of £100,000 it will cost. We are extremely grateful to all have contributed. It was delightful to receive donations to this appeal even during the lockdown.

We recently received final planning consent to go ahead with the work on the baptistry. The planning consent requires a detailed investigation of the causes and remedies of the damage and an agreement on solutions to ensure that the repair, when completed, is good for at least 100 years. Now that we have this permission, we will put the work out to tender while continuing with our fundraising and grant applications to achieve the rest of the cost.

## **Some Other Items**

The long term plan is to reorder the inside of St Nicolas' Church and to find space for toilets, meeting rooms and storage space. This will be a 10 year vision with tangible steps along the way.

Our first task is to produce a detailed survey of every piece of

furniture, every door and window, every architectural feature, every pew and seat, every monument and memorial to ensure that we have an accurate record of their importance and condition. This is well under way. We have started on the pew survey and it is our intention to continue gradually removing the pews and replacing them with more contemporary and better quality seating. Our existing pews are regularly in need of repair and have no historic significance.

## **The Churchyard**

Those of you who visit the churchyard regularly will have noticed over the lockdown period that our grass cutting contractors stopped work and that the hot, spring weather ensured that everything grew and grew and grew! By May, our small team of dedicated churchyard volunteers took on the extra work of mowing the more visible areas of grass so that it would at least look tidy for visitors. Their efforts were truly remarkable and they were often on site three or four days a week. We owe them a huge thank you for their efforts. If you see them on site why not congratulate them yourself. Indeed, why not consider joining the team?

*The Reverend Larry Wright*



Kings Norton's much-loved Farmers' Market reopened on Saturday 11th July after several months of enforced closure. Encouraged by the sunshine, traders and shoppers turned out in healthy numbers to celebrate the reappearance of a local landmark. ... at a safe distance, of course!

**+** *Harry L Marks* **+**

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# Geraniums Everywhere!

Seasonal tips from a green-fingered reader  
in isolation



The gardens of Kings Norton are looking very well after a very dry spell followed by a very welcome period of rain and with the attentions of those in lockdown spurred on to doing some long-overdue garden maintenance.

Many of you will have been able to enjoy a drive in the country recently and along a country lane will have noticed a five-petalled blue-purple flower on the



*Geranium sylvaticum*

roadside verge. As you drove through a piece of woodland, it would have been thriving in the shade and continued to bloom on the other side. This wonderful plant will be the hardy Geranium, quite different from the bedding geranium correctly named a Pelargonium. If you were to pull over into a lay-by and take a closer look you would notice slight differences between the flowers in the woodland and those on the open verges. In fact there are two species, the Meadow Cranesbill *Geranium pratense* and, in the shade, the Wood Cranesbill *Geranium sylvaticum*.

Hardy geraniums are great plants for the perennial garden and indeed the great plantswoman Margery Fish said 'if in doubt



*Geranium pratense*

plant a hardy geranium!' Who am I to argue with that?

There are many beautiful hybrid geraniums in soft pinks and blues. Their ancestors come from Northern Europe where they are hardy down to minus 20 degrees Celsius! Once settled in after a couple of years they can be cut down to the ground after flowering to give a second show of bloom in the late summer but until they have built up a decent clump it is best to remove only the leggy flowering stems and

any leaves which are turning yellow. There are doubles and flowers splashed in blue and white and even one with golden leaves which looks a bit as if it has been deprived of some essential nutrient. These are best reserved for a site elevated to just below eye level where their special charms can be fully appreciated.

If you search for 'hardy geraniums' in Google Images you will be given hundreds of pictures of different varieties. To help us, the Royal Horticultural Society

has granted awards of garden merit to ten varieties and here they are:

*Rozanne*: pale blue with a bold white centre and very popular.

*Geranium venardii*: white has deep purple veining on the petals.

*Geranium Mrs Kendall Clark*: sports pale blue petals and flowers from late spring to early summer.

*Geranium Wageningen*: has green-eyed salmon pink flowers.

*Geranium Orion*: has petals of lavender tinted blue.

*Geranium Mavis Simpson*: was discovered in Kew Gardens and has silvery foliage with pink flowers.

*Geranium Dilys*: is a low-growing variety of a striking magenta pink.

*Geranium Kashmir white*: is of a very pure white with purple veins.

*Geranium Ballerina*: has pale pink petals with a deep red eye and



*Variegated holly*

will flower all summer long.

Lastly we have *Geranium Ann Folkand*. Discovered by a Lincolnshire vicar, this geranium has a tendency to develop in to a climber and its dark-centred magenta flowers are said to look their best scrambling through a mature holly. Buy or beg your starter plants and then you will be able to propagate by division giving you lots more to plant up or even give away.

Having had our plant of the month, this rather brings us to our tree of the month, the holly. To me, the holly has a really successful variegation either in silver or gold. That, plus a good show of berries, provides brilliant material for the Christmas

wreath. It's slow-growing and can become a bit straggly but we gardeners have plenty of patience and a bit of judicious trimming will keep a nice shape to your tree for many years to come. Sparrows love to nest in a holly hedge and I know of an unkempt holly hedge where the Holly Blue butterfly can be seen each year.

At this time of year, keep dead-heading for a long show of flowers and take a bit of time simply to sit and admire the fruits of your labours. Next month we will look at the problem of dry, hot borders.

Be patient and keep well.

*Adam the Gardener*

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## Resources for those staying at home

Access the Coronavirus Covid-19 Community Support Directory online at [www.bvoices.uk/Coronavirus](http://www.bvoices.uk/Coronavirus)

If you are unable to find the help you need, call 0333 772 1931 for assistance/referral

For advice: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice)

To find activities or support in your area visit [www.r2wbirmingham.info](http://www.r2wbirmingham.info)

To download the Birmingham Directory of Community Assets visit [www.brumnns.wordpress.com/tag/asset-directory](http://www.brumnns.wordpress.com/tag/asset-directory)

To find out about goods and services to help you in Birmingham visit [www.birmingham.connectosupport.org](http://www.birmingham.connectosupport.org)

To find third sector organisations in Birmingham visit [www.bvsc.org/directory](http://www.bvsc.org/directory)

To find NHS services in Birmingham visit [www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk/patients-public/a-z-services](http://www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk/patients-public/a-z-services)

## The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas' Parish Church, Hawkesley, in partnership with the Methodist Church, and Immanuel District Churches.

**We believe that the church in Kings Norton exists  
To be a worshipping transforming partnership in Christ  
To live out God's radical hospitality for all  
To be equipped for work in God's world**

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During the Covid-19 crisis, we have had to suspend all our usual activities including church services. That does not mean, however, that church has ceased to be active. Many of our services have moved online.

Sunday worship from St Nicolas' Church is now broadcast as a video on the parish website ([www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video)). It is available from early on Sunday morning and throughout the following week.

Sunday morning worship from Immanuel Church is streamed live on Facebook at 10.30 am ([facebook.com/Immanuel123Church](https://facebook.com/Immanuel123Church)).

The Tiny Tots Family Service is broadcast live on Facebook at 10.00 am on Sunday morning ([bit.ly/2K8KzTS](https://bit.ly/2K8KzTS)). You can find daily stories and crafts for children on the same page.

Weekly prayers for Druids Heath and other occasional recordings appear as podcasts on the parish website ([www.kingsnorton.org.uk/audio](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk/audio)).

You can join members of the Ministry Team for morning and evening prayer daily on the parish Facebook page at 10.30 am and 5.45 pm ([www.facebook.com/kingsnortonteam](https://www.facebook.com/kingsnortonteam)).

As new initiatives emerge, we will publish details on the parish website.

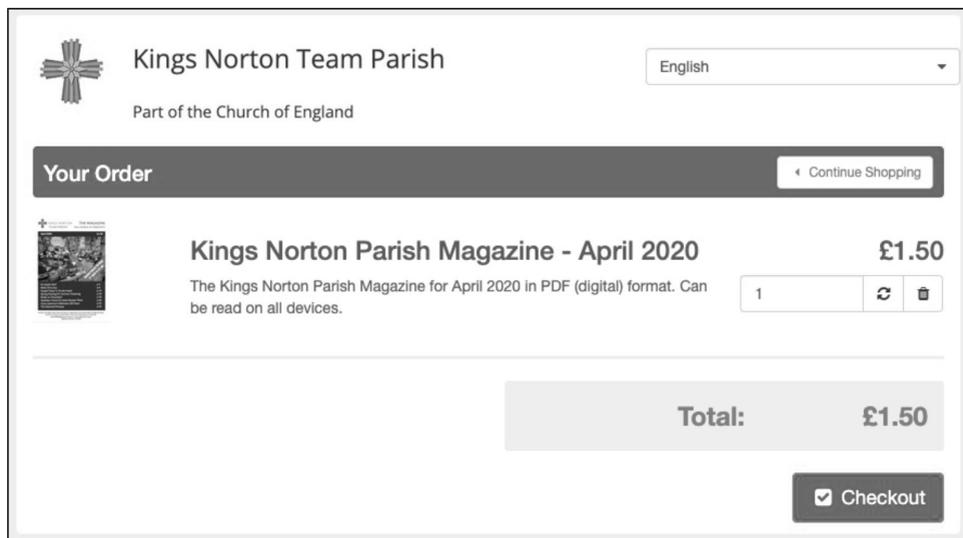
The Parish Magazine is now being sold online as a downloadable PDF which can be read on computers, phones and tablets. Since local distribution has become problematic, we have decided to print fewer copies, but all subscriptions will be honoured.

## The Parish Magazine on the Internet

Since April 2020, it has been possible to purchase the Parish Magazine from the Parish Website for the same price as the printed version. £1.50 buys you a digital copy which can be read on any device capable of opening files in the popular PDF format.

Since few of our local volunteers are able to deliver to your door during the health emergency, we have switched to postal deliveries for the time being. If an edition for which you have paid in advance fails to arrive, please let the Parish Office know and we'll send you another copy. If you prefer, we can arrange for you to receive a digital copy instead.

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## A PIONEERING INFLUENCE IN SPORT

*Like it or not, these days professional sport is with us all the time. There's more and more coverage in our newspapers and online, and there are now numerous television channels which broadcast nothing other than sport. Top sportsmen and sportswomen command breathtaking salaries which dwarf those of normal people. Football is especially ubiquitous.*

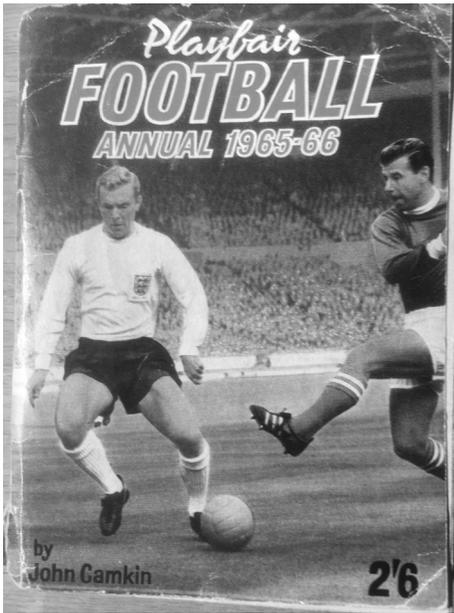
Like it or not, these days professional sport is with us all the time. There's more and more coverage in our newspapers and online, and there are now numerous television channels which broadcast nothing other than sport. Top sportsmen and sportswomen command breathtaking salaries which dwarf those of normal people. Football is especially ubiquitous.

But it wasn't always like this: in football terms there were many years when the FA Cup Final and the very occasional international match were the only games to be broadcast 'live', so much so that they were major events in the life of the nation, eagerly anticipated even by people who had little

interest in the sport. Even the greatest British players, such as Stanley Matthews, Billy Wright and Duncan Edwards, were paid no more than £10 a week, the infamous 'maximum wage' established by the football authorities.

It was a Kings Norton man who played a significant role in changing the face of professional sport, particularly football. He was John Camkin, who was born William John Camkin on 23 June 1922 and became a prominent sports journalist and a far-sighted businessman and sports administrator.

He had a sporting pedigree. His father Bill was managing director



of Birmingham City Football Club, and also owned several snooker and billiard halls in the city: in the 1930s he had introduced a national snooker tournament which became 'The Embassy Cup' between 1936 and 1956.

Bill and his wife Helena Ethel (nee Holder) were a well to do family and gave their son an excellent education. John went to Warwick School and then, as World War Two was developing, to Oxford University where he captained the football team at his college, St Edmund Hall. While at Oxford, he joined the University's Air Squadron, which supported the country's wartime air effort:

shortly afterwards, he joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve as a navigator with Bomber Command.

He had worked on a local Midlands newspaper before going up to Oxford, and when the war was over, in 1946 he joined the Birmingham Gazette as a sports journalist. By the 1950s his reputation had grown to the point where BBC Radio invited him to become one of the first specialist football commentators (this was a time when the broadcasting of sport on TV and radio was at a very early stage of development: sports commentators were a very rare breed). He went on to cover the World Cup tournaments in 1954, 1958 and 1962. During the 1960s he moved to ITV, which was beginning to rival the BBC in terms of sports coverage, and helped cover England's triumph in the 1966 World Cup.

A notable achievement during these pioneering years was the fact that John produced the only book written in English about the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, a measure of how relatively underdeveloped was the national interest in sport. It sold well, because the tournament

captured the attention of the public by seeing the debut of the world's greatest ever player, Pele.

As John became well known amongst football fans, and through his journalistic talents, he became editor of a range of football books in the late 1950s and early 1960s, some of which will be fondly remembered by readers of this magazine. They included the News Chronicle and Daily Dispatch Football Annual and latterly the Playfair Football Annual, both pocket-sized books reviewing the previous season and looking forward to the next season, full of facts and figures about every club and all players up and down the League. With broadcast coverage still very limited, and no online sources of information, these books were indispensable for football fans.

John was restless, and wanted to achieve in other areas than journalism and broadcasting. Having travelled internationally to report football, in 1960 he bought a travel agency in Leamington Spa and created a group of travel shops under the name of John Camkin Travel Ltd., initially locally across the Midlands and then in other cities including London. Eventually he

sold his business to the Thomson Holidays Travel Group in 1972: as a result his shops were rebranded Lunn Poly. v

His pioneering days in the area of sport were not over, far from it. In 1962 he had become a director of Coventry City FC, which was then a relatively small club in the lower divisions of the Football League. He played a major role in transforming the prospects for the club, by persuading Jimmy Hill to become manager. Jimmy, who many will remember for his distinctive pointed chin and beard, was a kindred spirit, another of football's groundbreakers. He was a leading player who became chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association and in that role was instrumental in abolishing the maximum wage limit which so restricted the prospects of the leading players.

In his time with the Sky Blues of Coventry, Jimmy Hill reconstructed it so successfully that it became one of the country's most prominent clubs for some thirty years. He then had a glittering television career. Some readers will recall that as the club progressed, it developed a version of the Eton Boating

Song as the anthem of the football club, the Sky Blue Song. John Camkin actually wrote the new words!

Jimmy Hill had also created an organisation called the Word Sports Academy, and John went to Saudi Arabia to develop football there, including managing the national side. He returned to the UK after three successful years. Subsequently John and Jimmy became involved in another developing area of international football, the growth of the sport in the United States, backing the Detroit Express team in the North American Soccer League. Back home, John then held a number of senior posts in key professional football-related organisations.

This seemingly tireless man had further strings to his sporting bow. In the early 1980s he managed several promising young golfers, including Howard Clark, now a golf commentator.

As he moved towards his senior years, John played cricket for Wellesbourne Cricket Club, but he stayed active in business. By the 1990s he was living in Lansdowne Circus in Leamington Spa, and was director of a

prominent travel agency. He was also chairman of Leamington Tennis Club for nearly twenty years. It was during this period that there emerged a wonderful description of his unique character: 'A man characterised by a keenly sardonic wit, Camkin could be capricious – if not thoroughly Machiavellian. Never in danger of being described as one of life's most gracious losers, he was nevertheless excellent company: despite a firmly-stated preference for dogs over humans, he socialised easily – with just about anyone, anywhere.'

He could not resist making fundamental change. On assuming the role of chairman of the tennis club, he announced that the club's parlous finances demanded immediate attention. Subscription fees were tripled, and, only a few years later, he oversaw a fundraising campaign which yielded over £100,000. Today, the equivalent sum would stand closer to half a million pounds sterling.

John never married, and died of cancer in Leamington Spa on 19 June 1998, aged 75.

*Michael Kennedy*

# RUMOURS OF HOPE

## *More reflections from lockdown*

'What day is it?' has been the constant cry of the past four months in our house. We've taken to varying breakfast each day to give us a clue. If it's grilled tomatoes on toast then it's Saturday, grapefruit and croissant, Sunday. You get the picture. Time seems to accelerate and decelerate at the same time. When you have something to do it is suddenly 5.00 pm. If you don't, it's always 11.00 am, no matter how often you look at the clock. Meanwhile, it would be lovely to move on and talk about something else, but I fear that Covid-19 and its consequences will be with us for quite some time to come. The big question is whether 2020 is the year we lost or the year when we learned something very important.

The world changes daily as we emerge, blinking and with some trepidation, into a new era, into

unchartered territories. There are signs in some parts of a slow release and of relief from lockdown. We are moving into a time of the re-opening of some services and it is with great relief that I have a hairdressing appointment soon!

If you are fed up with lockdown, it may help to bear in mind that in Sweden, where lockdown was voluntary, they now have one of the highest rates of Covid-19 pro-rata. By contrast, my brother was working in neighbouring Norway in early March when a swift and severe lockdown was instituted. He managed to return to the UK with hours to spare. The rates of infection in Norway have been very low as a result of that swift action and life is returning to a sort of normal there. Lockdown is working, at least for now.



In the USA, however, where a lockdown depended on which state you live in, and where it was largely lifted across the country after only four weeks, the rate of infection is sky high and surging at an alarming rate, approaching three and half million known cases and 150,000 known deaths to date with a daily infection rate of more than 40,000. And, no, Mr. President, measurement is not cause! You will not have fewer cases if you do not measure and record the rates because they are not cause and effect. Mass testing and tracking is still the most effective way of curbing the infection.

There are many positives. The creativity and adaptability of so many never fails to inspire me amidst the gloom. Online choirs and orchestras are incredibly hard work to bring together but they give so much joy. Actors, dancers and artists are experimenting, producing and presenting work online. Some museums and art galleries are conducting virtual tours. Teachers are conducting virtual open days as well as devising new ways of inspiring their students to learn. Sports folk are leading exercise regimes online. We are still together apart.

Dizzying new terms and vocabulary seem to pop up daily. There's the corona moment when we are suddenly overwhelmed by the whole thing; much worse is the corona stone, the average weight put on during lockdown. Then there is shielding, and now shelfies, which refers to how some are re-arranging the shelves behind them for online conferencing. It might be arranging academic books in alphabetical order or, in my case, adding a small vase of flowers. (To cheer up the

viewers, you understand.) If you are the gardener Monty Don, your shelves look like there has been a small earthquake!

We have reached a watershed moment as we find out what is valuable to us: family, friends, community.

Christian denominations in the UK are recording an increase in enquiries for church weddings as folk are seeking something more than the material, searching for the transcendent in these special times. In a Church Times survey, 48% were recorded as having turned to prayer and 61% have become more neighbourly. 57% are more thankful although 38% are more anxious. 46% have worshipped online and 63% of churchgoers think that this is a great time to rethink the Church's future. The Church is rising to the occasion with a sense that God is calling it to new insights into how it presents the Gospel. There has been, across the denominations, a welcome increase in interfaith cooperation. Within the Church and beyond there has been a

pooling of minds, resources and energies as people work together for a common cause.

Sadly, local food banks, almost unheard of ten years ago, are becoming overwhelmed as lockdown-related unemployment increases. Yet, caring for our neighbours who are experiencing severe difficulties has its precedents. The town of Presteigne in Wales, near the border with England, was quarantined from the surrounding villages in 1638 by an outbreak of plague. The surrounding villages paid a



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poll tax to buy food for the unfortunate townsfolk, which they left at two locations on the town's outskirts. During the current pandemic, the town has marked these two places with two white crosses.

Wildlife worldwide thrives on lockdown. In this country, apparently, pelicans were spotted, appropriately enough, in London's Birdcage Walk! A herd of Kashmiri wild goats from the Orme wandered regularly through the deserted streets of Llandudno to eat the garden plants and hedges.

Without a steady stream of heavy traffic, animals and birds have returned briefly to reclaim the land. Might this change how we caretake our gardens and amenity land? Not concreting over our front gardens helps prevent flooding. Road verges can be cut later in the year, banks of flowers left to bloom and seed through summer and we must preserve our ancient forests and peat bogs, not 'build, build, build'.

Many greater and lesser works have been written at a time of a plague. In 1772, Daniel Defoe wrote *A Journal of the Plague Year*, a fictional though systematic and detailed account based on the Great Plague of London in 1665. More creative outflowing is found in *The War of the Worlds* by H G Wells, published in 1898, in which aliens from Mars need human flesh to survive! They are eventually defeated by a microscopic pathogen. We are motivated and repelled at the same time by extreme situations. Inspired writing can encourage and sustain us to get through these tough times.

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Amid warnings of further spikes and an increase in mental health issues, we face mass unemployment which will be exacerbated by a no-deal Brexit. We will need all our inner resources to cope and survive. However profound or mundane, what will we take away into 2021 from what feels like the eternal winter of Corvid-19 to help us? I finish with this heartfelt prayer written in about 1610 by Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Chichester, of Ely and of

Winchester, to guide, reassure and encourage us through the days ahead;

‘Be, Lord, within me to strengthen me, without me to preserve, over me to shelter, beneath me to support, before me to direct, behind me to bring back, round about me to fortify.’  
Amen to that!

*Thelma Mitchell*

## BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

<p>BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS</p>  <p>FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED</p>  <p>FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS</p>  <p>FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS</p>  <p>FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS</p>  <p>FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS</p>
<p>BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS</p>  <p>FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS</p>  <p>FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS</p>  <p>FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS</p>  <p>FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.</p>  <p>FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPIRE</p>
<p>BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.</p>  <p>FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.</p>  <p>FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS</p>  <p>FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY</p>	<p>BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY</p>  <p>MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN</p>	

TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

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# Walking the Dog

## *The Thoughts of a Lay Minister*

On my desk is a coaster which bears the slogan 'I'd rather be walking my dog'. It makes me smile during Zoom meetings, especially ones that go on a bit. Dog walking is both enjoyable and essential. There isn't a choice: rain or shine, dogs need a walk. That's not to say that there aren't days when we don't walk. If it's too hot or really wet I'll be tempted to stay in, the first for her sake, the second for mine! And there are days when I don't want to walk. Ginny, of course, is always ready for a walk and will walk for as long as you want and as often as you want.

Ginny is a rescue Border Collie whom we have had for three years. She was a stray originally and still has some odd hang ups from those days. Well, that's what I like to think; but it could just be that she is odd! Some days, walking can feel like a chore but usually, once we are out and walking, it's great. It's a time to think, pray, problem solve or just clear the head. I often write quite brilliant emails (or rants) in my head while I'm walking but luckily don't remember them when I get back so they don't get sent, which is usually just as well.

Walking can be as social (distanced, of course, at the moment) or as anti-social as you want it to be but the chances are that you will find someone to talk to or bump into



someone you know. And yes, if you meet me while I'm out walking, sometimes you will end up mentioned in this little piece (sorry Judith, couldn't resist!). Often you talk to strangers or people to whom you might normally give a wide berth. You just never know who you are going to meet. Dogs are often a good way of starting a conversation and don't always take no for an answer!

During lockdown, it has been my daily exercise and dog walking has changed. Suddenly, there were so many more people out and

about, especially on bikes. (Don't get me started on a rant about rude cyclists or we'll be here all day).

My usual walking routes became busy instead of quiet, pavements became crowded, grass has grown long and traffic almost disappeared. Luckily, in Kings Norton, we have a wealth of open spaces to walk in so it was time to change my normal route and find somewhere a bit different with fewer bikes.

I've found parts of Kings Norton that I didn't know existed and have explored new paths. Since some of the restrictions have been lifted, it's fun to be able to walk with people again and to have a good old natter on the way. Paths are getting quieter and soon it may be time to change routes again. But, lockdown or not, restrictions or not, we'll be out there walking.

*Pauline Weaver*

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# QUIZZICAL



*Potential?*

The Kings Norton & District U3A includes a group of enthusiastic quizzers called the 'Quizzicals'. They have sustained their activities during the lockdown with a series of online competitions. With their kind approval, here are 20 questions from their latest quiz. See how you do. The use of web searches and books is strictly prohibited!

The answers, all of which have been verified, are on page 42.

## **Round 1. The World**

There are ten countries in the world that have four letters in their name (as in the English version). Name as many as you can.

## **Round 2. Britain**

1. Which other British city than London has a Charing Cross station?
2. What is the best-selling British book of all time, first published in 1549?
3. A Welsh rarebit with an egg on top is called what?
4. Exeter and which other English city have an 'x' in their name?
5. Symonds Yat is a rocky outcrop on the bend of which river?
6. Which comes from the furthest north: Pontefract cake, Kendal mint cake or Eccles cake?

## **Round 3 . Food & Drink**

1. Which of these three foods do Britons hate most? a) tripe b) anchovies c) sprouts
2. Which fish is traditionally used in kedgerree?

3. During the 1980s, which drink was promoted with the advertising slogan, 'the totally tropical taste'?
4. A dish described as 'Dubarry' always contains what vegetable?
5. Mock turtle soup is generally made from what?
6. What sort of food is Yorkshire fettle?

#### Round 4. Multiple Choice

1. Which of these is a real condition? a) Mud wrestlers rash, b) Ironer's wrist c) Worm charmer's knee
2. In 2015 the French court prevented a couple from calling their daughter what name? a) Volvic b) Nutella c) Airbus
3. Which of these is a race of people living in a mountain range in SE Asia? a) The Miao b) The Woof c) The Baa
4. To which country is the Isle of Man closest? a) England b) Wales c) Scotland
5. What was the name of the Chinese gymnast who won trampoline gold at the London Olympics? a) Dang Dang b) Ding Ding c) Dong Dong
6. The Icelandic delicacy of Hakari is what? a) Rotten shark b) Smoked puffin c) Fermented polar bear.

#### Round 5. True or False?

1. Central heating for kids
2. The appliance of science
3. Tasty, tasty, very very tasty, they're very tasty
4. It does exactly what it says on the tin
5. Cool as a mountain stream
6. I'm only here for the beer

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# Headteacher's Report Summer 2020

At Hawkesley Church Primary Academy, like any primary school, relationships are at the heart of what we do. For our school, the importance of community is inspired by our conviction that the love which Jesus taught and lives is at the heart of life.

Before Covid-19, we chose 'service' as the value with which our staff resonate the most. During the pandemic, our understanding of this core value has been strengthened. How? By providing and delivering over 200 weekly food hampers; holding weekly wellbeing phone calls with all children and their families; providing online, telephone and remote tuition for all; and signposting our most vulnerable families to receive additional support. All this while keeping our doors open to create a place of hope for our most vulnerable pupils.

At the start of the lockdown period, I was struck by a sentence in the Easter story, one which bridges the Crucifixion and the Resurrection: 'Now, in the place where he was crucified, there was a garden.'

A colleague shared the following words, 'Sometimes it is in the hard & sharp



times that God breaks through.' She expressed the hope that, during this period of change, we would find, in the garden of our lives, the blossom amongst the thorns.

Many within our school community have faced challenges in the last few months: losing loved ones, managing huge pressure to ensure children's safety and learning, experiencing loneliness, or dealing with challenging home lives.

In all this, the phrase 'blossom amongst the thorns' has helped to guide us, not simply to serve, but to look for the good around us.

During this period, we have tried to be a place of hope, instilling light and compassion. For me, as the Head, the words that Paul writes to his church in Corinth resonate with our journey during this time:

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.'

As the academic year comes to a close, the strength of our school team has enabled our school to flourish and grow.

Sam Smith  
Headteacher

## MAY & JUNE 2020 FUNERALS

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John ch.3 v.16)

1st May	Jean Shelley	83	Cr.RH
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Arthur Edwin Barclay	90	Cr.LH
4 <sup>th</sup> May	John Henry Shakespeare	91	Bu.CY
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Doris Marjorie Webb	94	Cr.LH
7 <sup>th</sup> May	William Ernest Fowkes	84	Bu.KN
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Ann Sylvia Sturgess	79	Cr.LH
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Laurence John Whitby-James	94	Cr.RD
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Tracey Angela Green	54	Cr.LH
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Michael Thomas Hickey	76	Bu.CY
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Helen Audrey Liggins	96	Bu.CY
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Andrew Sadler Wiggins	77	Bu.CY
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Stephen Michael Quigley	69	In.CY
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Peter Richard Williams	87	Bu.CY
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Eric William Parker	82	Bu.KN
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Geoffrey Kenneth Roberts	65	In.CY
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Norma Southwick	84	Cr.RH
28 <sup>th</sup> May	Margaret Ann Richards	74	Bu.CY
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Derek Walter	81	Cr.LH
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Norma Molly Gwynn	94	Cr.RR
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Keith Roger Wright	76	Bu.CY
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Violet Phillips	98	Bu.BE
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Gary John Cleveley	59	SN.Bu.CY

**SN** : Service at St Nicolas' Church, **Cr** : Cremation, **Bu** : Burial,  
**BE** : Brandwood End, **CY** : Churchyard, **In** : Ashes interred, **KN** : Kings Norton,  
**LH** : Lodge Hill, **RD** : Redditch, **RH** : Robin Hood, **RR** : Rowley Regis

# *A Little Bird Told Me*

*In this edition, I am remembering the days when I served on the MV Falmouth Bay. This month's topic is bird life observed and the wonders of nature in our world, which has been so troubled of late.*



I am going to take you back in time to a period when I was crossing the Pacific from Korea to America. Each afternoon, I would take a walk around the deck or perhaps do a little sunbathing. The particular day I am going to tell you about was quite grey and the sea was pretty rough; so I popped into the bridge and had a chat with the Second Mate. We were talking when the Captain walked in.

As I looked out across the sea I observed on the horizon a sight like a cloud of black dots. The Captain got out the binoculars and said he could see a huge flock of birds. He went to a drawer and produced an illustrated book. After consulting it for a few moments, he told the Second Mate and me that what we could see was a flock of terns migrating from North America to the South Pacific for the winter period.

The ship then changed course slightly as the plucky little birds were flying close to the surface and we did not want to have them landing on the deck. We were some 600 miles from the nearest land. The three of us agreed that we had seen a wonder of nature. It was amazing to contemplate the vast distances which these creatures had to fly so bravely and there must have been several thousand birds in the flock.

Meanwhile, closer to home, I have been having my own encounters with bird life. I feed the local birds each day and a favourite is Mr Black, a semi-tame blackbird who, at my call, will come really close to me. He waits for his breakfast each day. I think he might be willing to come to my hand to feed but I do not want to have him become too tame, mainly because there are several predatory cats in the area. The nest was close to my back garden and there were two fledglings which he would bring to show me and I would feed them

too. I have not seen the female for some time. This may be because the local cats have been at work but, as I sit by my screen windows looking into the garden, there he is again. His constant bird song is so inspiring at this time of lockdown. Perhaps you agree that God is always around us all, no matter what is happening in our disturbed world today.

*Eddie Matthews*

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## More information about the reopening of St Nicolas' for public worship

At the time of going to press, this is what we know. Only 30 worshippers may attend. They must book with the Parish Office by phone or email by noon on the previous Friday. The service will start at 10.00 am and will last 30 minutes. It will take the form of Holy Communion with bread but no wine. There will be no singing and no refreshments after the service. Worshippers will be directed to seating. Families may sit together. There will be a one-way system for entry and exit. Hand gel will be provided and must be used. After the service, the church will remain open for personal prayer until 11.30 pm. Any update to these arrangements will be published on the parish website and in the weekly newsletter.

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# From the Church Newsletter (not ours, naturally!)

Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on 'Overcoming bad experiences.'

We are grateful for the help of those who cleaned up the grounds around the church building and the rector.

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist Church. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, 'Break Forth into Joy.'

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## QUIZ ANSWERS

*From p. 36*

### Round 1.

Chad, Cuba, Fiji, Iran, Iraq, Laos, Mali, Oman, Peru, Togo

### Round 2.

1. Glasgow 2. The Book of Common Prayer 3. Buck rarebit 4. Oxford 5. River Wye 6. Kendal mint cake.

### Round 3.

1.b) Anchovies 2. Haddock (smoked) 3. Lilt 4. Cauliflower 5. Calf's head (or foot) 6. Cheese.

### Round 4.

1.a) Mud wrestler's rash 2. b) Nutella 3. a) The Miao 4. c) Scotland 5. c) Dong Dong 6. a) Rotten shark

### Round 5.

1. 1. Ready Brek 2. Zanussi 3. Kellogg's Bran Flakes 4. Ronseal 5. Consulate cigarettes 6. Double Diamond.

The maximum score is 34. If you scored 17 or more, you'd do well with the Quizicals. See how to join them, or any of the other local groups organised by the Kings Norton University of the Third Age at [www.usasites.org.uk/kingsnorton](http://www.usasites.org.uk/kingsnorton).

## CONTACTS

If you cannot find what you are looking for here, you will probably find it on the parish website ([www.kingsnorton.org.uk](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk)). Alternatively, please ask questions at the Parish Office, which remains open between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm.

**81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8RU**  
**parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk    0121 458 3289 [www.facebook.com/KingsNortonTeam](http://www.facebook.com/KingsNortonTeam)**

## THE MINISTRY TEAM

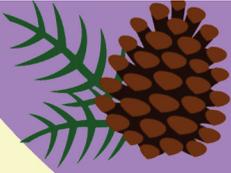
Team Rector	The Revd Larry Wright
Assistant Rector	The Revd Eliakim Ikechukwu
Parish Lay Minister	Pauline Weaver
Curate (Pioneer)	The Revd Catherine Matlock
Hon Assistant Priest	The Revd Jayne Crooks
Methodist Minister	The Revd Nick Jones
Readers	David Ash,            Fay    Fearon, Ruth Howman, Parisa Pordelkhaki Steve Wright
Lay Preacher	Sylvia Fox
Music Minister	Chris Gadd
Pastoral Care Team Coordinator	

## THE CHURCH WARDENS

<b>St. Nicolas' Church</b>	Peter Hay & Julie Hill	
<b>Hawkesley Church</b>	Jim Clarke	0121 550 3455 or 07 939 838 086
<b>Immanuel Church</b>	Sue Hartley	

## OTHER CONTACTS

Parish Administrator & P.C.C. Secretary	Judy Ash
Finance Officer	Catherine Dehghani
Safeguarding Coordinator (0121 459 6185)	Clare Dean
Regular Giving	The Revd Jayne Crooks
Flower Arranging (0121 486 2837)	Alison Blumer
Oasis (Sunday School) Tiny Tots & GPS	Pauline Weaver
Oasis (Sunday School) Immanuel	Nicky Moorcroft



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